

Patent Claims

1. An apparatus for securing sheet-shaped materials during a rotary movement, whereby the rotation occurs around an axis of rotation (M) that is parallel to the outside edges of the sheet-shaped materials comprising:

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first and a second movable clamping jaws;

a clamp drive for driving the first and second clamping jaws to clamp the sheet-shaped materials;

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a rotation drive for rotating the clamped stack of sheet-shaped materials around the axis of rotation (M), wherein the axis of rotation is on the centerline of the clamped stack of sheet-shaped materials.

2. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein driving of the first and a second

15 movable clamping jaws is carried out symmetrical to the stack of sheet-shaped materials.

3. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the stack of sheet-shaped materials is arranged vertically while being clamped.

4. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the clamp drive does not move the first and a second movable clamping jaws during the rotation.

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5. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the first and a second movable clamping jaws are closed on both sides.

6. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the clamp drive drives two worm gears that translate rotary movement of the clamp drive into a linear movement.

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7. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the clamping movement of the first and second clamping jaws is carried out independently of the stack thickness.

8. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second clamping jaws are mounted so that they float in order to compensate variations in thickness within the stack of sheet-shaped materials.
9. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the axis of rotation lies in the center of the stack.

5 10. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the clamp drive is operable by hand.

11. A method for securing sheet-shaped materials during a rotary movement, whereby the rotation occurs around an axis of rotation (M) that is parallel to the outside edges of the sheet-shaped materials comprising the steps of :

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driving first and a second movable clamping jaws to clamp the sheet-shaped materials;

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rotating the clamped stack of sheet-shaped materials around the axis of rotation (M), which is on the centerline of the clamped stack of sheet-shaped materials.

12. A method according to Claim 11, wherein driving of the first and a second movable clamping jaws is carried out symmetrical to the stack of sheet-shaped materials.

13. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the stack of sheet-shaped materials is arranged vertically while being clamped.

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14. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the driving does not move the first and a second movable clamping jaws during the rotation.

15. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the first and a second movable clamping jaws are closed on both sides.

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16. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the driving comprises driving two worm gears that translate rotary movement of the clamp drive into a linear movement.

17. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the clamping is carried out independently of the stack thickness.
18. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the first and second clamping jaws are mounted so that they float in order to compensate variations in thickness within the stack of sheet-shaped materials.
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19. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the axis of rotation lies in the center of the stack.
20. A method according to Claim 11, wherein driving comprising operating by hand.